**Statement by H.E. Pendapala A. Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of Kyrgyzstan, 20 January 2020**

1. **Thank you, Madam President,**
2. Namibia warmly welcomes the delegation of Kyrgyzstan and thank them for their commitment to the UPR process.
3. Namibia commends Kyrgyzstan for the positive human rights impact measures taken since its 2nd Cycle review in 2015. We are particularly pleased to note the measures taken to promote and protect the rights of women, which include the adoption of a strengthened Family Violence law in 2017 and the criminalization of domestic violence in January 2019. Namibia is also pleased to note that with the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 16 May 2019, Kyrgyzstan is now a State Party to 8 of the 9-core international human rights treaties.
4. There, however, remains room for improvement, and the spirit of constructive dialogue, Namibia, therefore, makes the following two recommendations for consideration by Kyrgyzstan:
   1. Adopt legislation criminalizing marital rape and take effective measures to end the practice of bride kidnapping.
   2. Establish a body to oversee the coordination and implementation of domestic violence prevention and protection measures, as required by the Family Violence Law.
5. We wish the delegation of Kyrgystan a successful review.
6. **I thank you, Madam President.**